

[Republican budget hawks boost Obama's bipartisan deficit panel](#)

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...Rep. Xavier Becerra (D-Calif.), a liberal on the fiscal commission, wouldn't rule out backing spending or revenue targets, but he said the commission must first understand the range of options.

"Are we still Iraq or Afghanistan during this particular threshold? If we are, how are we paying for it?" Becerra said in an interview. "Are we finding ways to better control private-sector costs for healthcare? ... You're seeing only the product of an equation without knowing what the variables are."